

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 14-16, without prejudice; add new Claims 20 and 21; and amend Claim 1 as indicated below. The status of all pending claims is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A tibial sizer for use during knee arthroplasty, said tibial sizer comprising:

a head;

a handle extending outwardly from said head;

a channel extending along said tibial sizer in a longitudinal direction, through at least a portion of said head and at least a portion of said handle; and

a slider configured and arranged to be slidably positioned within said ~~channel~~.  
channel, such that said slider is slidable within both said head and said handle.

2. (Original) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 1, wherein said head includes posterior, lateral and medial outer peripheral surfaces, and further wherein said posterior outer peripheral surface is generally flat, and one of said lateral outer peripheral surface or said medial outer peripheral surface is curved and the other of said lateral outer peripheral surface and said medial outer peripheral surface is generally flat.

3. (Original) The tibial sizer according to Claim 1, wherein said head includes posterior, lateral and medial outer peripheral surfaces, and further wherein said posterior outer peripheral surface is generally flat, and one of said lateral outer peripheral surface or said medial outer peripheral surface is curved and the other of said lateral outer peripheral surface and said medial outer peripheral surface is generally flat and includes a cutout portion therein.

4. (Original) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 1, wherein said head includes posterior, lateral and medial outer peripheral surfaces that are shaped to generally correspond to posterior, lateral and medial outer peripheral surfaces, respectively, of a tibial base plate of a unicompartmental knee prosthesis.

5. (Original) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 4, wherein either said lateral outer peripheral surface or said medial outer peripheral surface includes a generally flat surface with a cutout portion therein.

6. (Original) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 1, wherein said slider includes a hook portion at one end thereof for making contact with a posterior proximal portion of a tibia.

7. (Original) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 1, wherein said slider includes at least one set of markings thereon for indicating the amount of exposed bone between a posterior proximal portion of a tibia and a posterior edge of said head of said tibial sizer.

8. (Original) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 1, further comprising:  
a first set of markings for indicating the amount of exposed bone between a posterior proximal portion of a tibia and a posterior edge of said head of said tibial sizer; and  
a second set of markings for indicating a suggested size of tibial base plate with respect to an anterior/posterior direction.

9. (Original) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 8, wherein said first set of markings are located on said slider, and provide said indication of exposed bone amount when viewed with respect to a terminal edge of said handle.

10. (Original) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 8, wherein said second set of markings are located on both said slider and said handle.

11. (Original) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 10, wherein said second set of markings comprise:

indicia on said handle representing different sizes of tibial base plates; and  
a pointer on said slider for pointing to the indicia on said handle to indicate a  
suggested size of tibial base plate with respect to the anterior/posterior direction.

12. (Original) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 8, further comprising a  
third set of markings, wherein said third set of markings comprise indicia on said slider  
representing different sizes of tibial base plates, wherein said third set of markings are not  
visible when said slider is inserted within said channel of said handle, but said third set of  
markings are visible when said slider is used without said handle, whereby said slider may be  
used for determining a suggested size of tibial base plate, with respect to the  
anterior/posterior direction, without said slider being inserted into said channel.

13. (Original) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 11 wherein:  
said handle includes a first surface on one side thereof and a second surface on  
an opposite side thereof; and  
further wherein said second set of markings are visible when viewing both said  
first surface and said second surface.

14-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Original) A system of tibial sizers for use during knee arthroplasty, said system comprising:

a plurality of differently sized tibial sizers, wherein each tibial sizer includes:

a head;

a handle extending outwardly from said head; and

a channel extending along said tibial sizer in a longitudinal direction, through at least a portion of said head and at least a portion of said handle; and

a slider configured and arranged to be slidably positioned within each of said channels of said plurality of differently sized tibial sizers.

18. (Original) The system of tibial sizers as defined in Claim 17, wherein each of said heads includes posterior, lateral and medial outer peripheral surfaces, and further wherein said posterior outer peripheral surface is generally flat, and one of said lateral outer peripheral surface or said medial outer peripheral surface is curved and the other of said lateral outer peripheral surface and said medial outer peripheral surface is generally flat.

19. (Original) The system of tibial sizers as defined in Claim 17, wherein each of said tibial sizers includes:

a first set of markings for indicating the amount of exposed bone between a posterior proximal portion of a tibia and a posterior edge of said head of said tibial sizer;

a second set of markings for indicating a suggested size of tibial base plate with respect to an anterior/posterior direction; and

a third set of markings, wherein said third set of markings include indicia on said slider representing different sizes of tibial base plates, wherein said third set of markings are not visible when said slider is inserted within said channel of said handle, but said third set of markings are visible when said slider is used without said handle, whereby said slider may be used for determining a suggested size of tibial base plate, with respect to the anterior/posterior direction, without inserting said slider into one of said channels.

20. (New) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 1, wherein said channel includes a pair of upper lips, in at least a portion of said head and at least a portion of said handle, for maintaining said slider within said channel.

21. (New) The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 1, wherein said channel extends through the entire length of said tibial sizer.